

TRADEWINDS 2001

Brought to you by the California Department of Food and Agriculture

An Update from the Agricultural Export Program

Agricultural Export Program
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India Lifts Import Restrictions

BERLIN, April 6 Asia Pulse (asia.biz.yahoo.com) - The United States has said India has achieved a 'truly historic result' by removing Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) on imports of remaining agricultural, textile and industrial products from April 1.

Americas Ministers Set 2005 FTAA Deadline

Western Hemisphere trade officials, after a week of intense negotiation, set Jan. 1, 2005 as a target date for reaching an agreement to create the world's largest free trade zone stretching from Canada to Chile. In an unprecedented move, top trade officials representing 34 nations in North and South America and the Caribbean, also pledged to release the current draft text of the pact in response to labor, environment and consumer advocacy groups' calls for transparency in trade negotiations. Once completed, the Free Trade Area of the Americas will link nearly 800 million people, or about 15 percent of the world's population. The region produced more than \$11.4 trillion in goods and services in 1999 and about \$2.7 trillion in cross-border trade. Ministers also agreed to a Dec. 31, 2005 target date for the FTAA to enter into force. Source: Reuters

Metro and Marubeni in Japanese Venture

Metro, Germany's largest retailer, said it would set up a joint venture with Marubeni, the Japanese trading house, to open bulk stores in Japan as part of its plans to expand its cash-and-carry business into Asia. The venture - in which the German group will hold an 80 percent stake - will open its first outlet in Tokyo in 2002, to be followed by three more stores in 2003. Each store will have an average selling space of 5,000 square meters - much smaller than Metro's European outlets, which are typically 10,000-15,000 sq m. Metro and Marubeni said the stores, which will only be open to wholesale customers, would acquire goods directly from local producers and manufacturers.

Canadian Potatoes to Be Allowed Into the U.S.

U.S. and Canadian agriculture officials announced that an agreement has been reached to allow the movement of potatoes grown from Prince Edward Island (PEI), Canada under certain agreed conditions. These conditions apply only to the 2000 PEI potato crop and are designed to mitigate the risk of spreading potato wart disease.



Secretary, William (Bill) J. Lyons, Jr

UnderSecretary, Tad Bell

Deputy Secretaries, Chris Wagaman & Dan Webb

Assistant Secretary, Vanessa Arellano

Agricultural Export Program Staff:

Fred Klose, Juan Almanza, Josh Eddy, Ken Brock,

Suzanne Lashley, Beth Jensen, Cynthia Baldwin,

Will Wollbold, Brenda Coonfield

◆Upcoming Events ◆

For further information on how to participate, please visit our website:

<http://www.export.cdffa.ca.gov/tradeshaw2000.html>

SIAL Mercosur 2001 - Only 4 booths left!

August 21 - 24, 2001, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Food & Hotel China 2001 - SOLD OUT!

August 28 - 31, 2001, Shanghai, China

ANUGA 2001 - Only 11 1/2 booths Left!

October 13 - 17, 2001 - Cologne, Germany

Exphotel 2001

June 13 - 15, 2001

Cancun, Mexico

Contact: Ms. Lourdes Guzman GuzmanL@fas.usda.gov

USDA's Sales Mission to Venezuela

June 14 - 15, 2001, Caracas, Venezuela

For further information, please contact the Agricultural Export Program

ORGANEX - London, United Kingdom

October 9-10, 2001

Contact: Amanda Newell, Tarsus Organex Ltd

Tel: 011 44 1494 730677 Fax: 011 44 1494 730688

E-mail: amanda@organex.net Web site: www.organex.net

US Food & Beverages Wal*Mart in-store promotion

October 4, 2001 - November 4, 2001, Mexico

WUSATA will assist participating companies by:

- 1) Helping products meet Mexican labeling requirements
- 2) Subsidize some of the costs of participation
- 3) Help get products known at the retail level

Please contact: Alexa Hamilton 360-693-3373 Tel / 360-693-3464
Fax (No later than 5/25)

Bakery Ingredient Promotion in China

China Bakery 2001 Exhibition June 10 - 16, 2001, Guangzhou, China

Additional Seminars are scheduled for:

June 16 - 17, 2001, Zhongshan, China	June 18 - 19, 2001, Shanitou, China
June 20 - 21, 2001, Xiamen, China	June 22 - 23, 2001, Ningbo, China
June 24 - 25, 2001, Wuxi, China	June 26 - 27, 2001, Xian, China

WUSATA MAP Branded Program Seminars

WUSATA will be conducting the yearly branded program regional seminars on May 18 in Anaheim and May 24 in Oakland. These seminars are designed to update veteran and prospective participants about the program and application process. For more information please contact Chris Rose or Dana Gering at WUSATA: 360-693-3373

Funding for International Promotions Available

Fiscal year 2001-2002 Market Access Program funds are available for food and agricultural exporters. For further information, please contact the California Agricultural Export Program.

South Korea to Implement WTO Beef Ruling

The United States and Australia have reached an agreement with South Korea on the deadline for Seoul to comply with a World Trade Organization ruling regarding Korean restrictions on the sale of foreign beef in the country. In a joint notification to the WTO dated April 24, the three countries said that South Korea will have until September 10, 2001, to ensure implementation of the WTO ruling striking down its dual retail system for imported and domestic beef.

Chinese Consumers Like Imported Fruit

According to China Online, a phone interview of eight major cities in China indicated that imported fruit is on most everyone's shopping lists and that shoppers there are spending \$13.53 million every month on it. Among those surveyed, 61.7% admitted that their primary consideration when shopping for fruit is taste and not cost, and 36.3% considered freshness to be most important consideration.

Taiwanese people prefer local brands to imported products in many foodstuffs and beverages, according to a survey by the Asian edition of the Reader's Digest, reported CBS MarketWatch.

Officials from Ministries of Health and Agriculture from Latin America and the Caribbean met in Brazil from May 2 - 4, 2001 for the PAHO/WHO RIMS meeting. Among the agenda items was a proposal for the creation of a Pan American Commission for Food Safety (COPAIA). The Commission would explore the possibilities of creating a regional body responsible for developing policies in the area of food safety. It was also agreed that assistance would be provided to CARICOM states in preparing an action plan to respond to the emergence of FMD and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) diseases.

SPS/TBT NOTIFICATIONS AFFECTING AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Listed below are proposed changes in international agricultural, food and related standards as notified via the World Trade Organization. Interested parties may obtain a full text of any notification by faxing a request to Deborah A. Thompson, Food Safety & Technical Services Division in USDA/FAS at 202-690-0677.

Comment Deadline Date	FSTSD#	Product Covered	Country	WTO#
	01.0256	Plants, Plant Products, Other	Slovenia	N/SVN/7
	01.0271	Pesticide MRLs	European Union	N/EEC/125
05/30/2001	01.0267	Food Additives (colours)	European Union	N/EEC/121
05/25/2001	01.0046	Wheat Flour	Brazil	TBT/N/BRA/5
05/25/2001	01.0047	Mineral Water	Brazil	TBT/N/BRA/7
05/30/2001	01.0268	Food Additives (sweeteners)	European Union	N/EEC/122
05/31/2001	01.0222	Industrial Hemp	New Zealand	N/NZL/140
05/31/2001	01.0227	Plants & Plant Products	Korea	N/KOR/90
05/31/2001	01.0265	Food Products-Tea	Korea	N/KOR/93
05/31/2001	01.0043	Organic Food & Agriculture	Malaysia	TBT/N/MYS/2
06/01/2001	01.0269	Fluroxypyr PMRLs	European Union	N/EEC/123
06/01/2001	01.0213	Ratites	European Union	N/EEC/119
06/02/2001	01.0253	Food Additives	Korea	N/KOR/92
06/04/2001	01.0219	Herbal Preparations & Foodstuffs	Netherlands	N/NLD/55
06/11/2001	01.0044	Fish	Japan	TBT/N/JPN/12
06/25/2001	01.0280	Maiza (corn)	Thailand	N/THA/55
07/12/2001	01.0045	Fresh Garlic	South Africa	TBT/N/ZAF/2

Trade Announcements

The ITC determined that there is a reasonable indication that mussels from Canada are allegedly sold in the U.S. at less than fair value. As a result, the agency will continue to conduct its antidumping duty investigation of imports of mussels from Canada, with its preliminary determination due on or about Aug. 20.

The ITC announced the initiation of dumping investigations regarding two agricultural products – greenhouse tomatoes from Canada and spring table grapes from Chile and Mexico (*Greenhouse Tomatoes from Canada*, ITC) (*Spring Table Grapes from Chile and Mexico*, ITC). In both cases the ITC must determine whether there is a threat of injury to the U.S. industry in the alleged dumping of the products from the exporting countries.

Preliminary antidumping duties will be imposed on imported honey from China and Argentina by the Department of Commerce, ranging between 50% and 61% for Argentine exporters and between 37% and 184% for Chinese producers, according to a press release from The American Honey Producers Association & Sioux Honey Association.

Canada, Australia and Japan were put on notice by the U.S. Trade Representative that they could face U.S. trade sanctions unless they remove objectionable barriers to U.S. agricultural products.

The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) voted to extend the antidumping duties on canned pineapple from Thailand. The decision extends for another five years the unanimous decision made by the Commission in 1995 to levy tariffs on canned pineapple imported at less than fair value because of damage to the U.S. industry

Packaging Web Site Launched

PMA general counsel, Keller & Heckman LLP, has launched a new web site www.packaginglaw.com designed to serve the global packaging community. The site has the latest packaging news, information and analysis of packaging regulations. It also features an "Ask An Attorney" area where visitors can ask questions of Keller & Heckman's team of experts.

Japan to Activate Safeguards On Imports

The Japanese government made a formal decision to activate World Trade Organization-based provisional "safeguards" against imports of scallions, shiitake mushrooms, and tatami grass. The decision to impose the tariff quota system on the three crops was made by Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori's Cabinet April 10. It calls for raising the import tariff on scallions, now at 3 percent of the import price, to 256 percent, or 225 yen per kilogram, of the price; to 266 percent, or 635 yen, for shiitake mushrooms, now at 4.3 percent; and 106 percent, or 306 yen, for tatami grass, now at 6 percent, for 200 days beginning April 23.